

COSMIC RAY INDUCED HIGH ENERGY EXTENSIVE AIR SHOWERS: EXPLORING EXOTICS IN NOVA



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OUTLINE

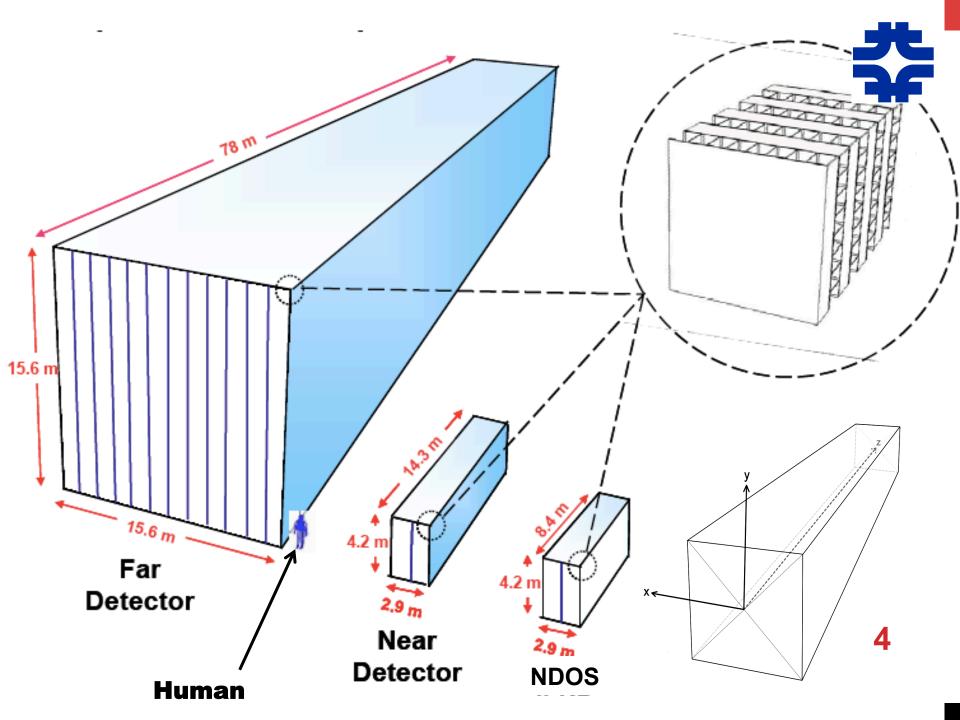
- Introduction: NOvA Detector Setup, Motivation
- Method: Identification and Analysis
- Reconstruction/Tracking:
 - HoughTransform
 - KalmanTrackMerge
- Future Prospects and Conclusions



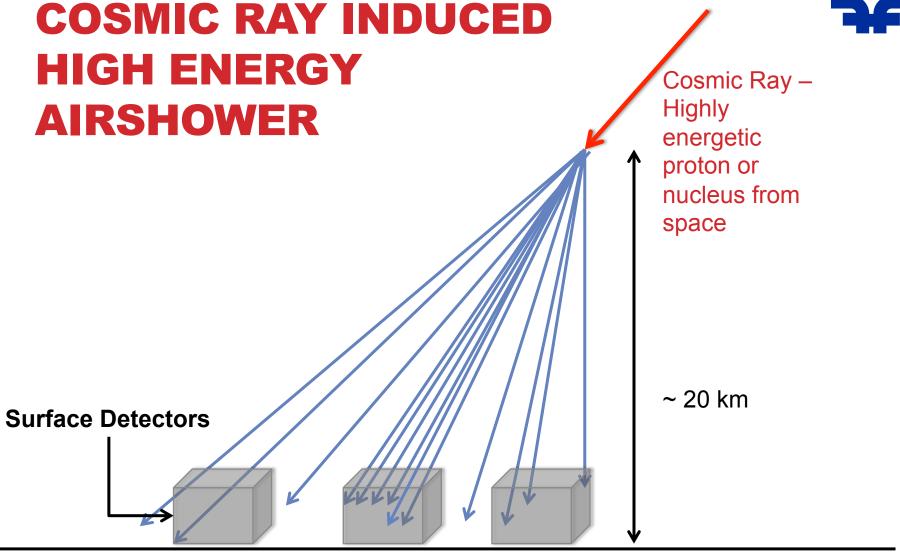
INTRODUCTION – DETECTOR SETUP











Ground/Surface





Want to study highly energetic cosmic ray induced air showers

Majority of particles produced in first interactions are pions and kaons which produce large number of muons

- Easily detectable at sea level
- Most of the electrons are absorbed/scattered/canceled out in the overburden above the detector

Best chance to study air showers in NOvA detectors is through muons

NOvA detectors potentially provide a unique opportunity to study their multiplicity and directionality

How?

STEP 1: IDENTIFICATION



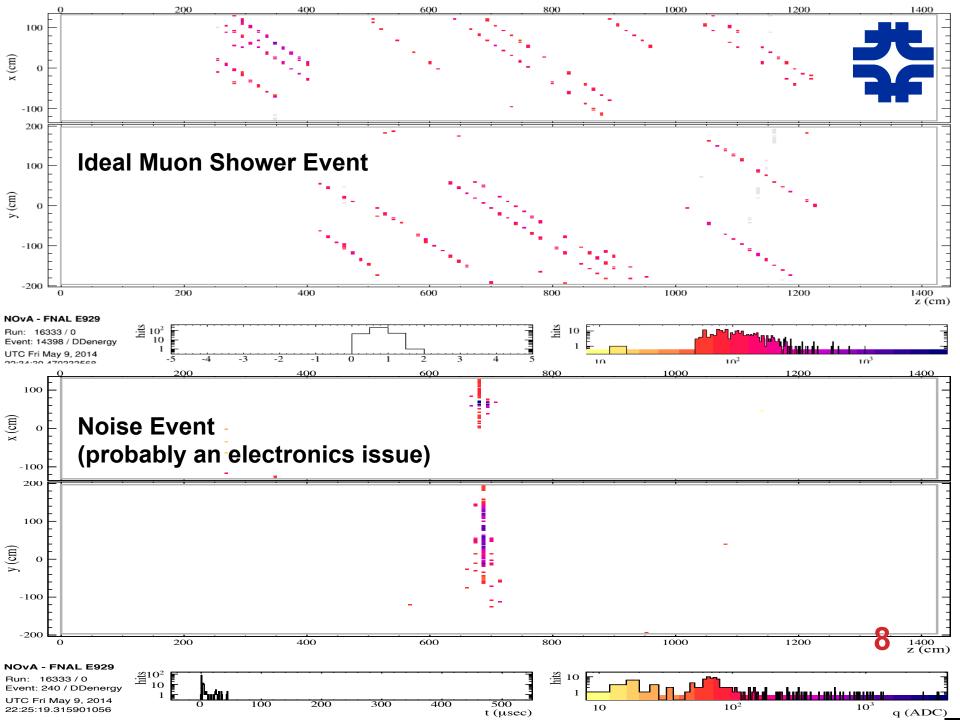
Events recorded from detector based on high energy triggers.

- NDOS: > 40,000 ADC (Analog-Digital (Converter) Counts)
- Far Detector: > 275,000 ADC

Cuts on the data allow further filtering and easier identification Major distinguishing parameters in raw data (that I know of):

- Total ADC per slice sum of ADC counts from each cell in a slice
- Average ADC per Cell per Slice (Total ADC/NCells/Slice)
- Z extent of the slices/tracks

Noisy and uninteresting events (and slices) can be filtered out by applying cuts to above parameters



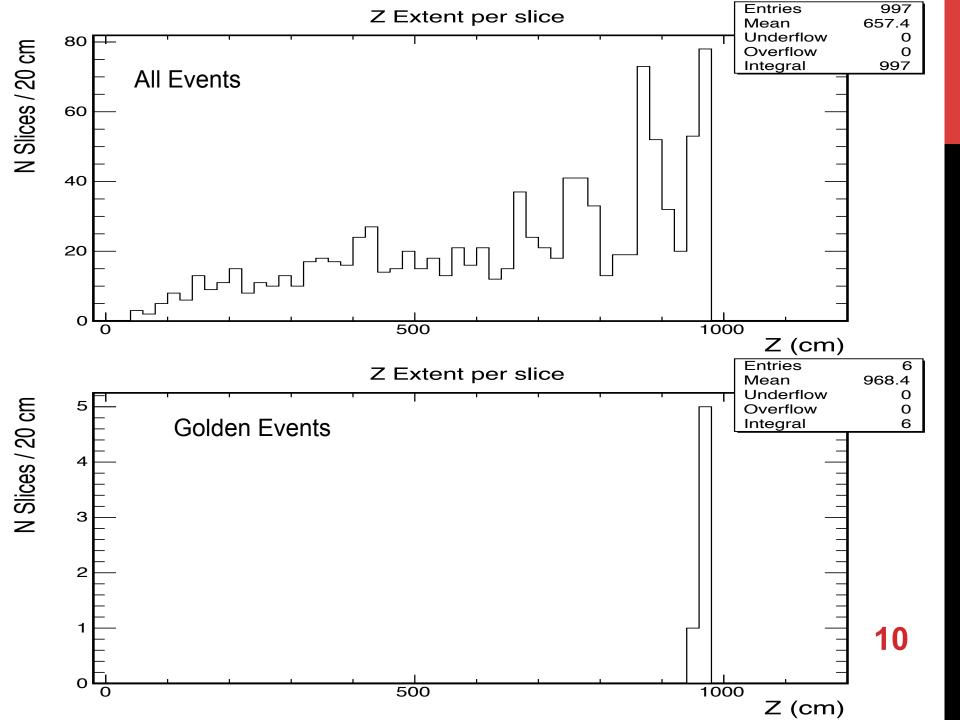


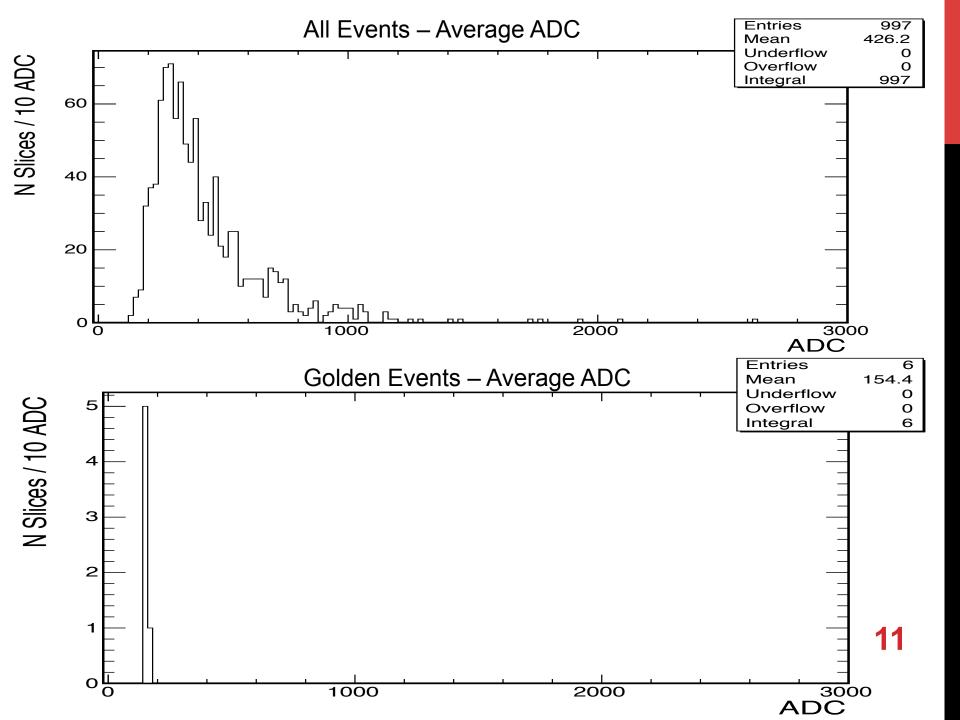


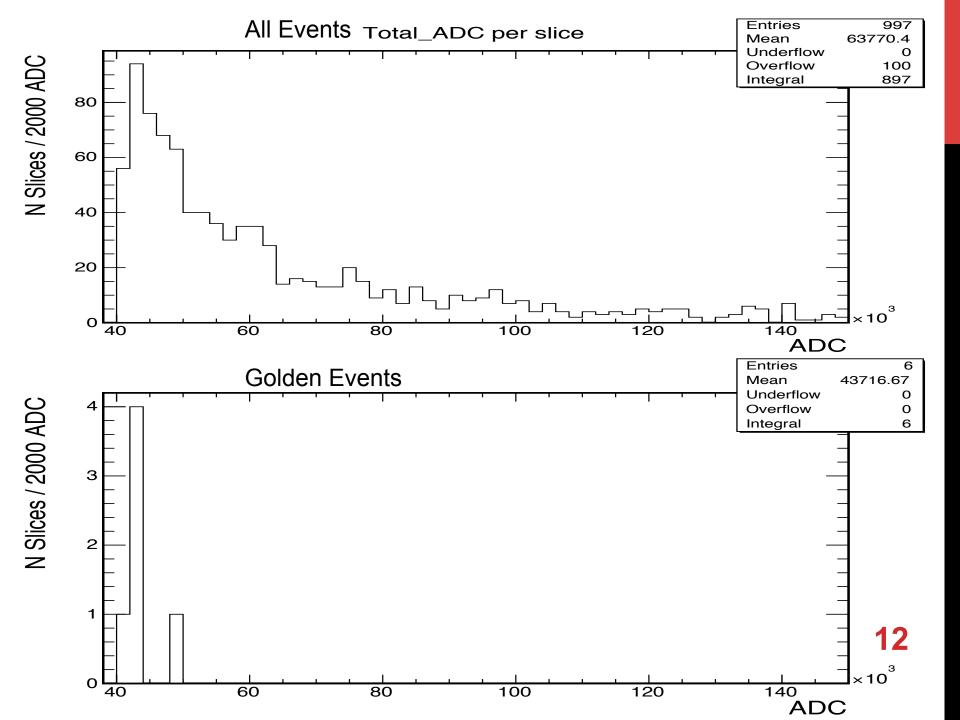
Applied cuts to Total ADC, Average ADC, and Z Extent of the slices to filter out noisy and uninteresting slices

Ideal event candidates (Golden Events) seem to have

- (at least) one slice > 40,000 ADC [dependent on multiplicity of tracks]
- Average ADC in range 140-170 (in NDOS)
- Span most of the detector (large Z extent in both NDOS and Far Detector)









STEP 2: STUDY WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

Want to study <u>multiplicity</u> (number of particles) and <u>directionality</u> (angle of track)

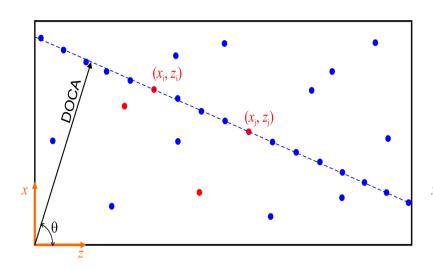
Need to reconstruct tracks to find out where they come from in the atmosphere

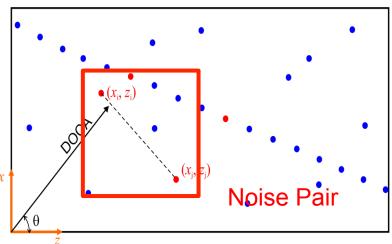
What is the best approach to extract this information from the data?

- Tracking:
 - HoughTransforms parameterized space, not dependent on start and end points, peaks represent tracks in an event
 - KalmanTrack(Merge) simply draws lines, based on start and end points of a track

HOUGHTRANSFORM







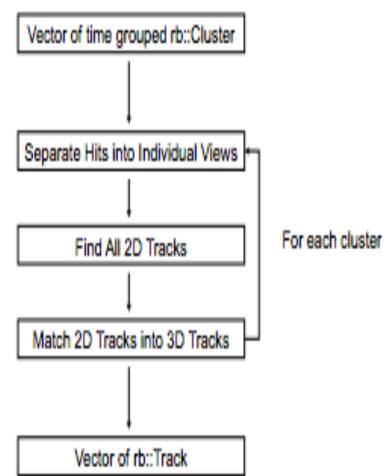
DOCA: Distance of Closest Approach

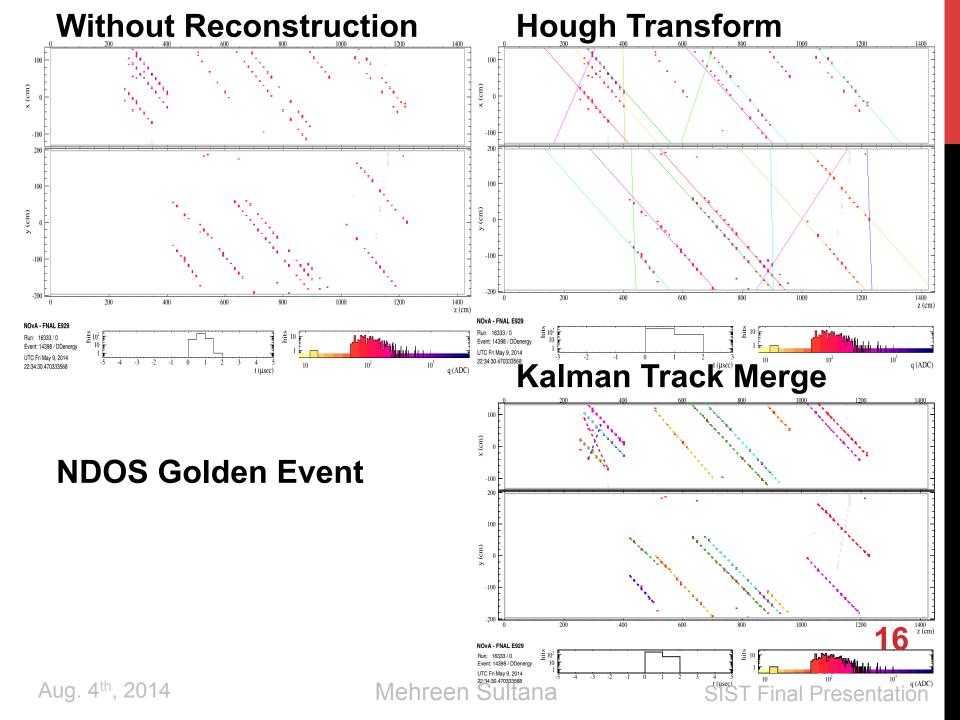
 $DOCA = z\cos\theta + x\sin\theta$



KALMAN TRACK

- Basically only draws lines based start and end points
- Easy to configure parameters
- Does a good job of matching
- Takes a very long time for slices with large number of hits
 - Far Detector:
 - MaxHitCut = 20000!
 - > 30 minutes
 - NDOS:
 - MaxHitCut = 1000
 - < 10 minutes</p>







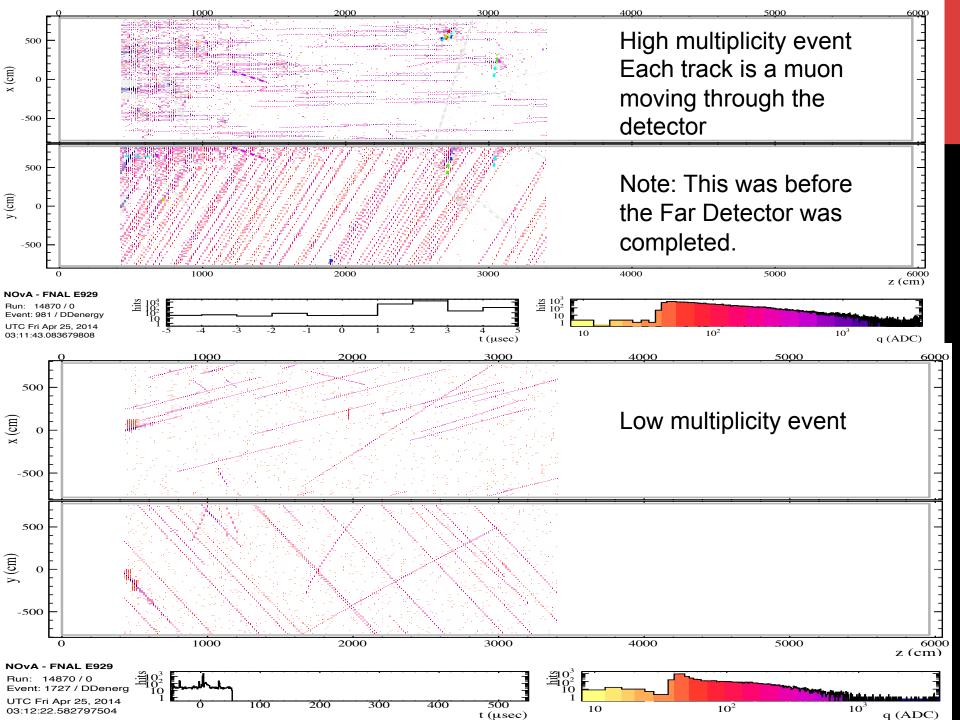
FAR DETECTOR: RECONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS

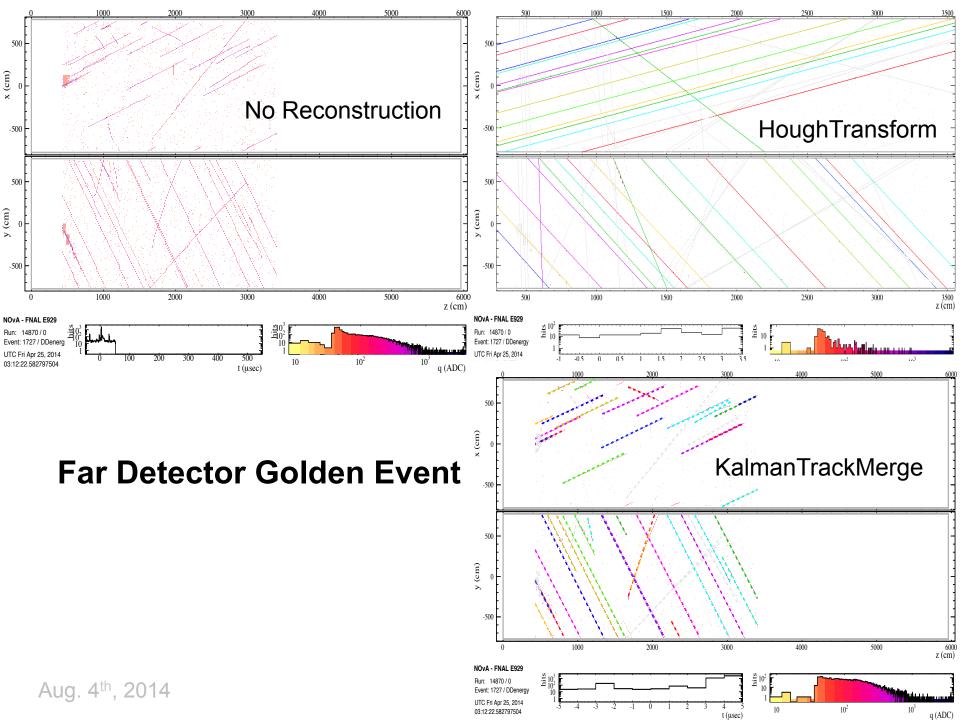
Module related:

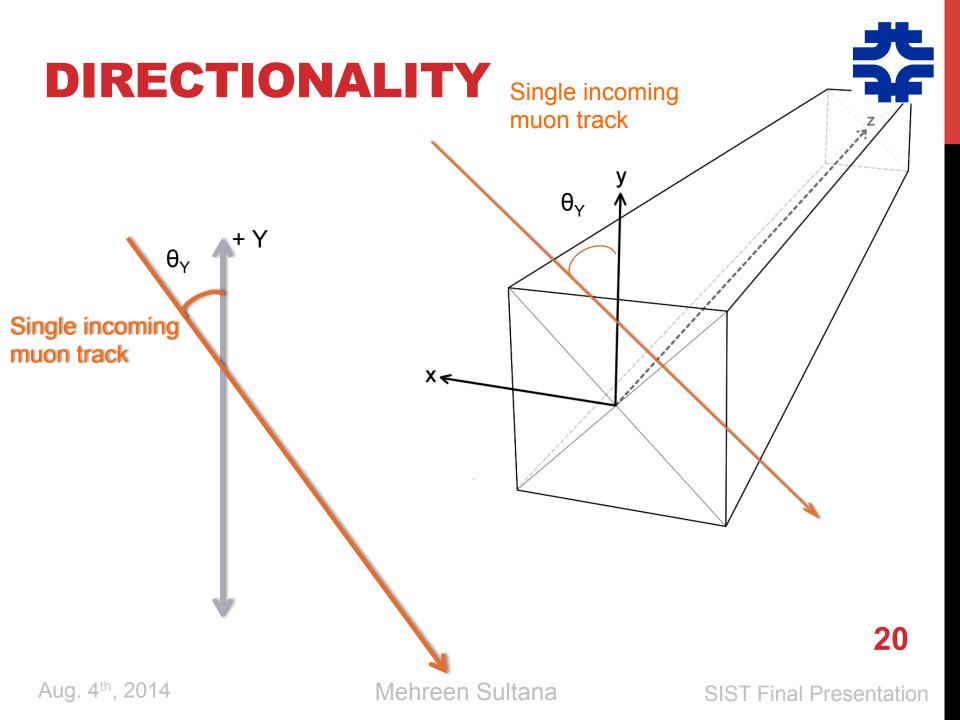
- Large number of muon tracks recorded in a single slice
- Makes tracking difficult and time consuming because of multiplicity of cell activity

Vertical/Steep Tracks:

- Few hits in one view make it difficult to reconstruct/match tracks
- Horizontal tracks appear "broken" because of steepness of the track
- Low Multiplicity events were used for actual analysis due to time constraints and unreasonable computational time with the available algorithms

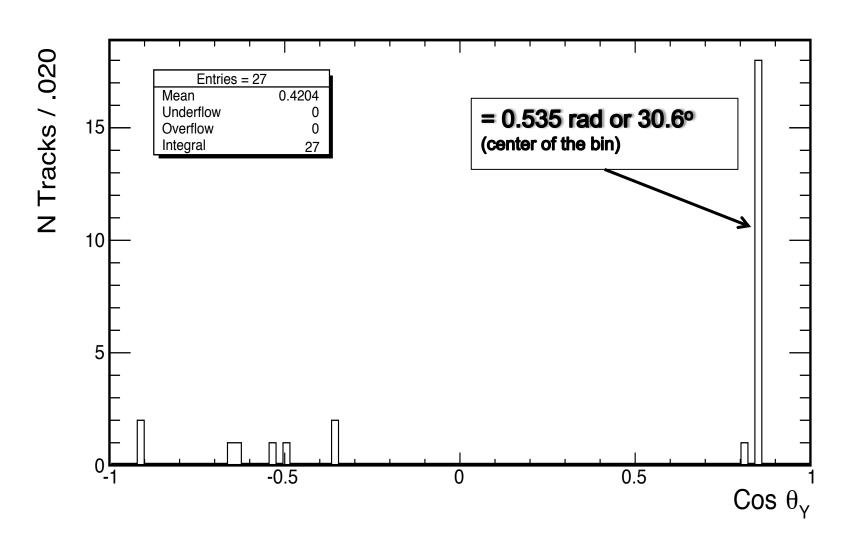


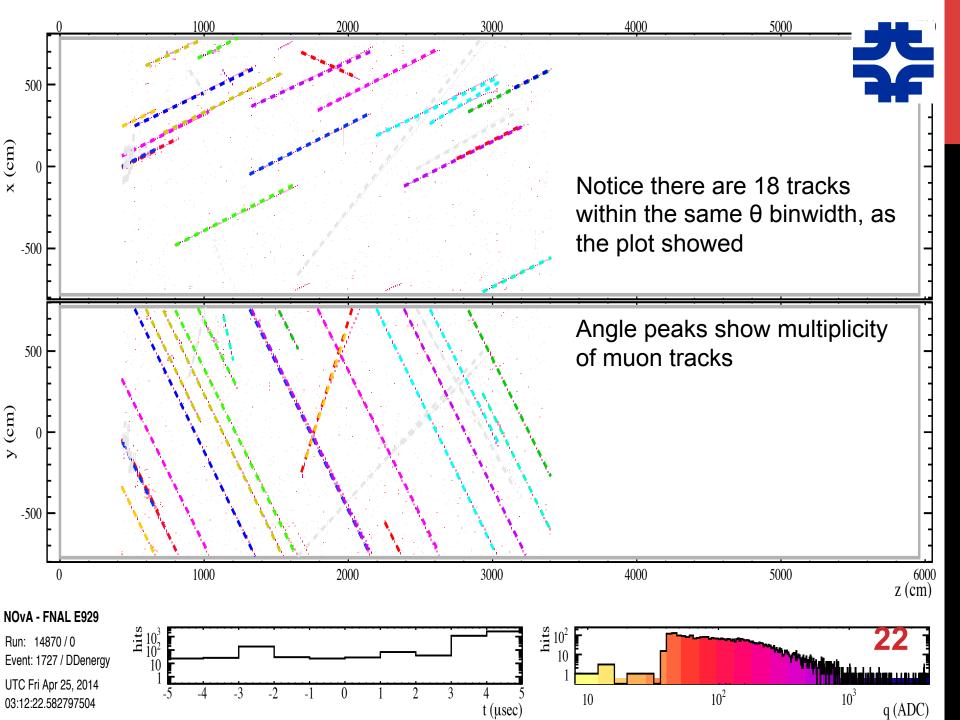




Angle of Tracks in Event 1727

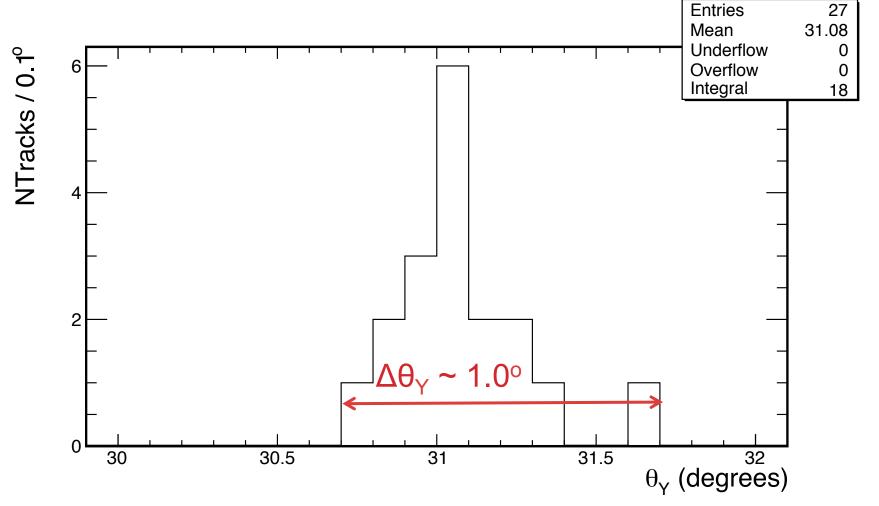


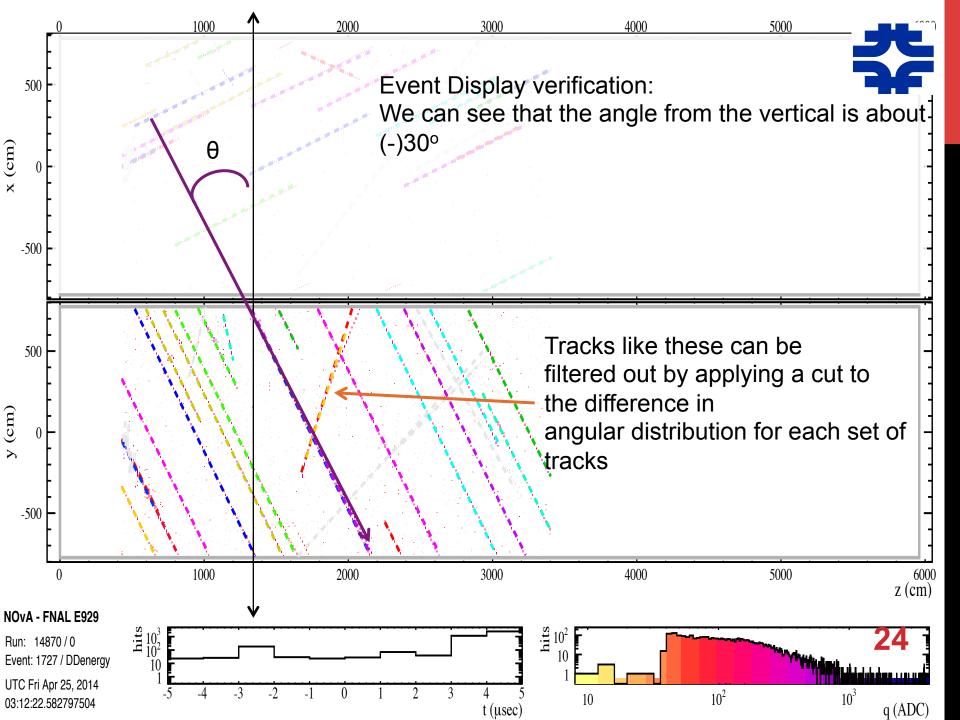




Angle of Tracks in Event 1727 (Rebinned)







NEXT STEPS & END NOTES



Hough Transforms works well in a reasonable time for large number of tracks in a slice in an event.

Kalman Tracking took 50 minutes(!) to plot out only a portion of the tracks in an event with a large number of hits. (shown later)

Need to see if these two options could be merged

Need to run simulations and reconstruct the particle composition and angular momentum of the showers.

Future experimental prospects for this study could be to place smaller surface detectors around the Far Detector to get a sense of the timing, spread, and the multiplicity of the showers as a function of θ .

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS





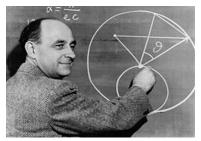






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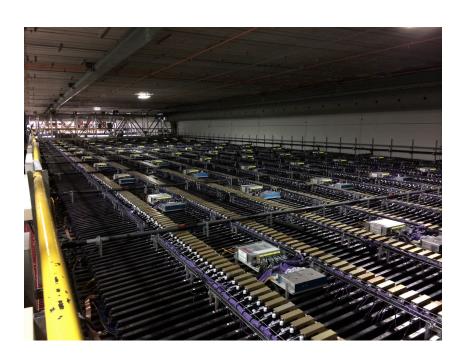






EXTRAS/ BACKUP





Notice the number of FEBs (Front End Board, the gold colored boxes) on each detector.

Data sets are significantly larger in

Far Detector. But you can also see more particles in Far Detector



